

## Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 JAKART 02474 240931Z  
ACTION EA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-05 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 CIAE-00  
INR-10 NSAE-00 DODE-00 /050 W  
-----013790 250703Z /65  
R 240912Z FEB 78  
FM AMEMBASSY JAKARTA  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7022

S E C R E T JAKARTA 2474

E.O. 11652: XGDS-2  
TAGS: PINT, ID  
SUBJECT: POSSIBLE SEARCH FOR A NEW VICE PRESIDENT

REF: (A) JAKARTA 2123, (B) JAKARTA 1447

1. DEFENSE DEPARTMENT ASSISTANT FOR INTELLIGENCE MAJOR GENERAL MURDANI TOLD AUSTRALIAN AMBASSADOR ON FEBRUARY 23 THAT ODDS ARE NOW AGAINST VICE PRESIDENT HAMENGKUBUWONO'S RUNNING FOR REELECTION. IF SULTAN DOES NOT RUN, IT WILL BE ENTIRELY BECAUSE OF HIS EYE PROBLEM, MURDANI CLAIMED.

2. MURDANI SAID CURRENT MEETING OF ARMY COMMANDERS (ENDING TODAY) MIGHT DISCUSS POSSIBLE SUCCESSOR. IF THEY DID NOT COME UP WITH A SUITABLE CANDIDATE, AS MURDANI EXPECTED TO BE THE CASE, FORMER FOREIGN MINISTER AND CURRENT SPEAKER OF PARLIAMENT ADAM MALIK HAD GOOD CHANCE OF GETTING JOB, MURDANI VOLUNTEERED.

3. COMMENT: THIS IS MOST RELIABLE REPORT WE HAVE HAD TO DATE THAT THE SEARCH FOR A NEW VICE PRESIDENT HAS BEGUN. ANOTHER INDICATION IS MALIK'S ATYPICAL REFUSAL TO BRIEF PRESS ON RECENT MEETINGS WITH THE PRESIDENT. MALIK'S CANDIDACY WOULD TAKE SOME OF THE POLITICAL STING OUT OF THE SULTAN'S WITHDRAWAL SINCE HE IS AMONG THE FEW INDO-NESIAN CIVILIANS WITH INTERNATIONAL STATURE AND BROAD (IF DECLINING) POPULAR APPEAL. WE SUSPECT, HOWEVER,  
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THAT HIS INDEPENDENT NATURE, HIS LINGERING AMBITIONS AND HIS UNPREDICTABLE PUBLIC GARRULITY CAUSES MANY MILITARY HEARTPAINS AND MAKES HIM A DECIDEDLY SECOND CHOICE TO THE SULTAN. SINCE MALIK WOULD BE UNACCEPTABLE TO THE MILITARY AS PRESIDENT, WE IMAGINE HIS SELECTION AS VICE PRESIDENT WOULD ENTAIL SPECIAL ARRANGEMENTS FOR SUCCESSION SUCH AS DISCUSSED PARA 5 REF B.

MASTERS

SECRET

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** VICE PRESIDENT, ELECTION CANDIDATES  
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**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
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**Enclosure:** n/a  
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**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
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**Reference:** 78 JAKARTA 2123, 78 JAKARTA 1447  
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**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
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20 Mar 2014  
**Markings:** Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014